

## Message Text

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PAGE 01 BONN 08988 161818Z  
ACTION EUR-12

INFO OCT-01 EA-10 ISO-00 SS-15 SP-02 INR-10 EB-08  
IO-13 L-03 OES-07 /081 W  
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R 161806Z MAY 78  
FM AMEMBASSY BONN  
TO SECSTATE WASHDC 8574  
INFO AMCONSUL BREMEN  
AMCONSUL DUSSELDORF  
AMCONSUL FRANKFURT  
AMCONSUL HAMBURG  
AMCONSUL MUNICH  
AMCONSUL STUTTGART  
AMEMBASSY CANBERRA  
AMEMBASSY THE HAGUE  
AMEMBASSY OTTAWA

C O N F I D E N T I A L BONN 08988

E.O. 11652: GDS  
TAGS: ELAB, GW  
SUBJECT: THE CITIZEN INITIATIVES AND THE FRG'S  
REPROCESSING CENTER AT GORLEBEN

REFS: (A) STATE 108411 (NOTAL); (B) BONN 6620

1. IN A CONVERSATION WITH EMB LABOFF, SIEGFRIED DE WITT,  
A FREIBURG ATTORNEY, MADE THE FOLLOWING REMARKS ABOUT  
THE FRG'S PROPOSED REPROCESSING CENTER AT GORLEBEN.  
ONE OF DE WITT'S CLIENTS IS A MAJOR LANDOWNER IN  
GORLEBEN AND THE SURROUNDING LUECHOW-DANNENBERG DISTRICT.  
DE WITT'S CLIENT IS OPPOSED TO THE REPROCESSING CENTER  
AND HAS DECIDED TO INSTITUTE A LAWSUIT AGAINST THE  
CENTER. THE CLIENT AND DE WITT ARE NOT OPTIMISTIC  
ABOUT THE LAWSUIT'S ULTIMATE SUCCESS, BUT THE  
POLITICALLY WELL-CONNECTED (ACCORDING TO DE WITT)  
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CLIENT BELIEVES THAT IF THE PROJECT CAN BE DELAYED  
FOR A YEAR OR TWO, THE LOWER SAXONY GOVERNMENT WILL  
LOOK FOR A FACE-SAVING WAY TO SCRAP THE WHOLE PROJECT.

2. LEADERS OF THE FEDERAL ASSOCIATION OF CITIZENS  
INITIATIVES FOR ENVIRONMENTAL PROTECTION, BBU, HAVE  
BEEN DOING ORGANIZATIONAL WORK IN LUECHOW-DANNENBERG,

AND THE LOCAL CITIZEN'S INITIATIVE GROUP IS GAINING MEMBERSHIP, LOCAL SUPPORT AND MEDIA COVERAGE. MARTIN MOMBAUER, A LOCAL RESIDENT, IS RUNNING AS A "GREEN LIST" CANDIDATE FOR THE LOWER SAXONY PARLIAMENT. DE WITT FEELS THAT MOMBAUER WILL NOT BE ELECTED SINCE HE IS ONE OF GORLEBEN'S "NEW PEOPLE", I.E. ONE OF THE REFUGEES WHO SETTLED IN THE AREA OVER THIRTY YEARS AGO.

3. DE WITT IS ALSO CURRENTLY INVOLVED WITH THE OEKO-INSTITUT WHICH WAS FOUNDED IN NOVEMBER, 1977. DE WITT AND OEKO ARE DEVELOPING CONTACTS AND INFORMATION PROGRAMS WITH US SCIENTISTS. SOME US SCIENTISTS MAY ULTIMATELY APPEAR AS EXPERT WITNESSES AGAINST FRG NUCLEAR PROJECTS AT THE ADMINISTRATIVE AND LICENSING HEARINGS REQUIRED BY LAW.

4. EMBASSY COMMENT: DE WITT IS ONE OF THE FRG'S TOP, YOUNG ENVIRONMENTAL LAWYERS WHO HAS THE CITY OF SCHWEINFURT AS A CLIENT AND EXCELLENT CONNECTIONS IN THE BBU. DE WITT IS WORKING ON CASES AGAINST THE PROPOSED REACTOR AT WYHL AND THE FAST BREEDER REACTOR AT KALKAR IN ADDITION TO GORLEBEN. PETER WILLERS AND ROLAND VOGT, TWO OF THE THREE CO-CHAIRMEN OF THE BBU, HAVE ALSO BEEN DEEPLY INVOLVED IN THE ORGANIZATION OF THE LUECHOW-DANNENBERG CITIZEN INITIATIVE.  
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## Message Attributes

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